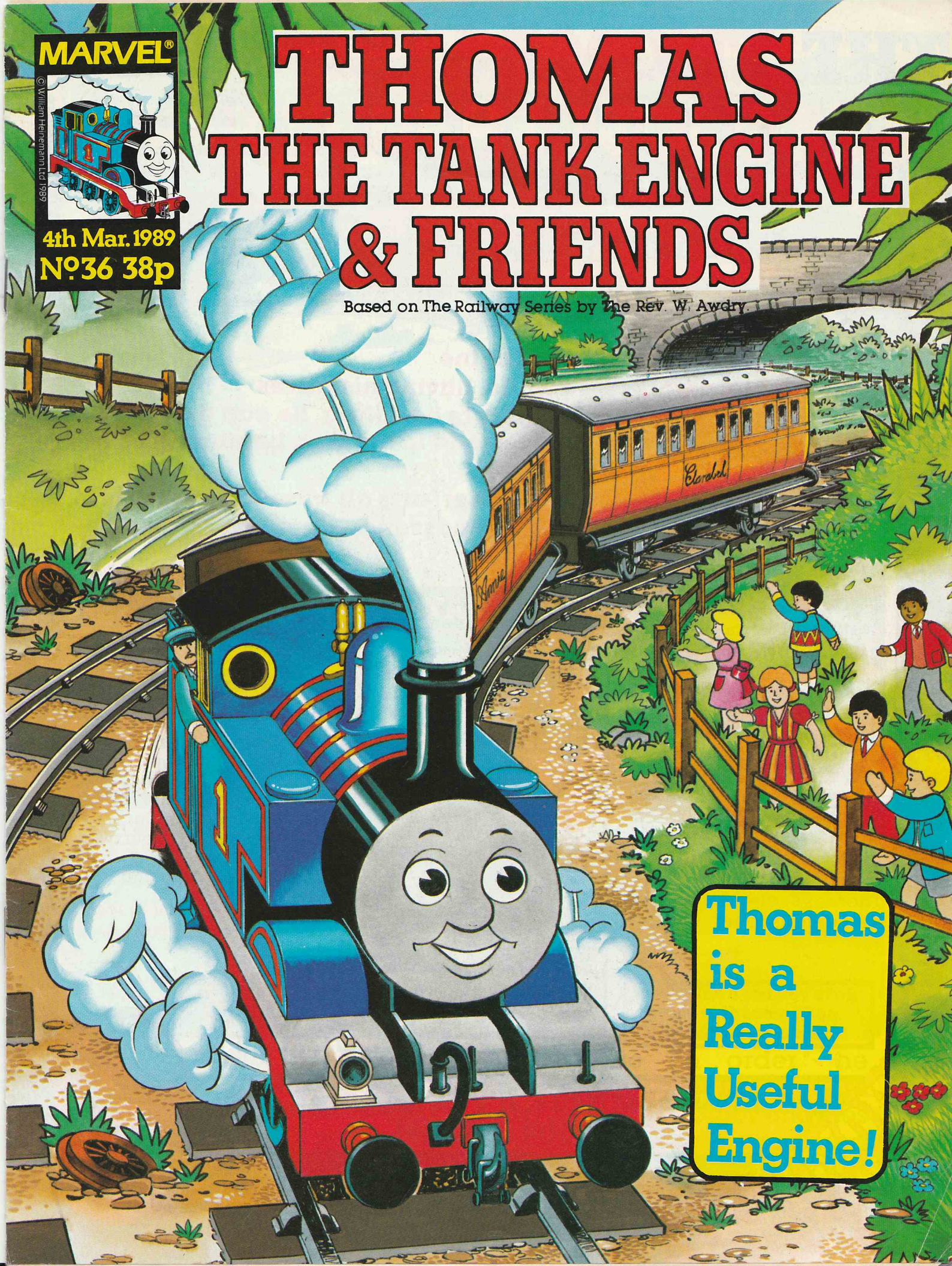
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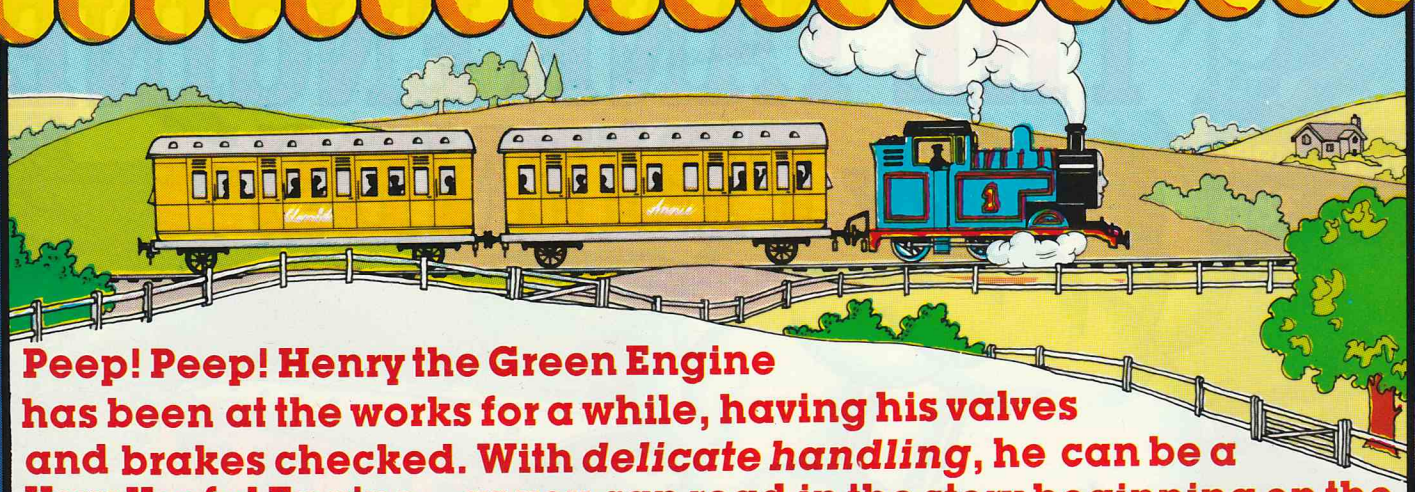
4th Mar. 1989
No.36 38p
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry
Thomas is a Really Useful Engine!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE



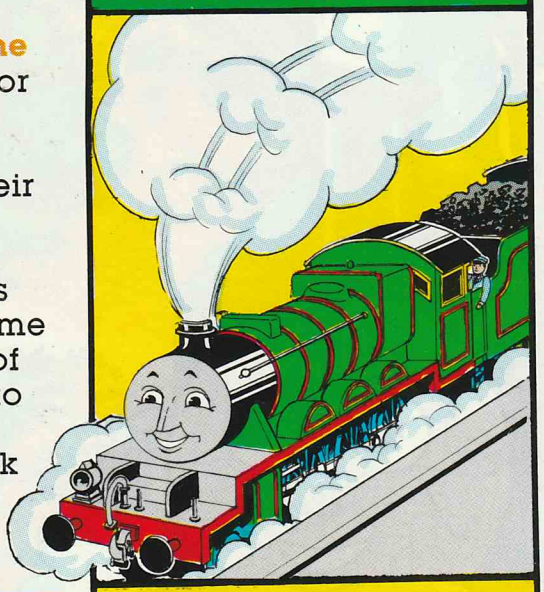
Peep! Peep! Henry the Green Engine has been at the works for a while, having his valves and brakes checked. With *delicate handling*, he can be a Very Useful Engine – as you can read in the story beginning on the next page.

Don't miss our second story either – it is all about a special new buffet coach – a coach where the passengers can buy and eat tasty food! Peep! Peep!

THOMAS PACK!

Every reader who subscribes to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** for one year will not only have **every issue** delivered straight to their home but will be sent a very smart and special **Thomas Pack** too! That's not all – they also become an **automatic member** of the Thomas Club! Turn to page 7 for a picture of Thomas's splendid Pack and details of how to **subscribe!**

HENRY SAYS...



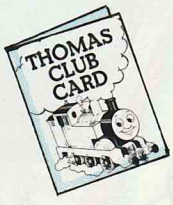
I'm a Really Speedy Engine!

MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

If you'd like to join Thomas's Club without taking a year's subscription, just collect 3 tokens like the one below. Send one **yellow**, one **red** and one **green** one, together with a stamped, addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*

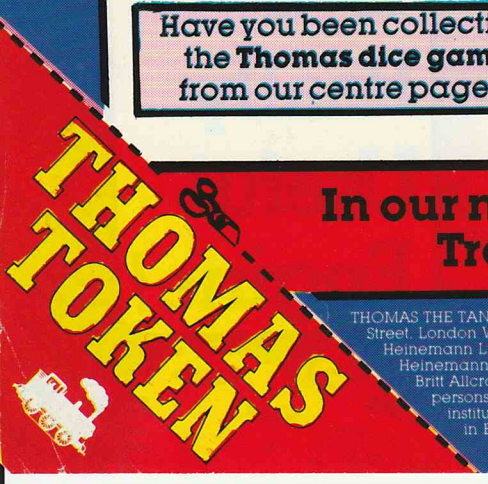
You will receive your own little black and white membership card and number.

Please allow 28 days for delivery.



Have you been collecting the **Thomas dice game** from our centre pages?

In our next issue: It's Thomas and Trevor at the seaside!



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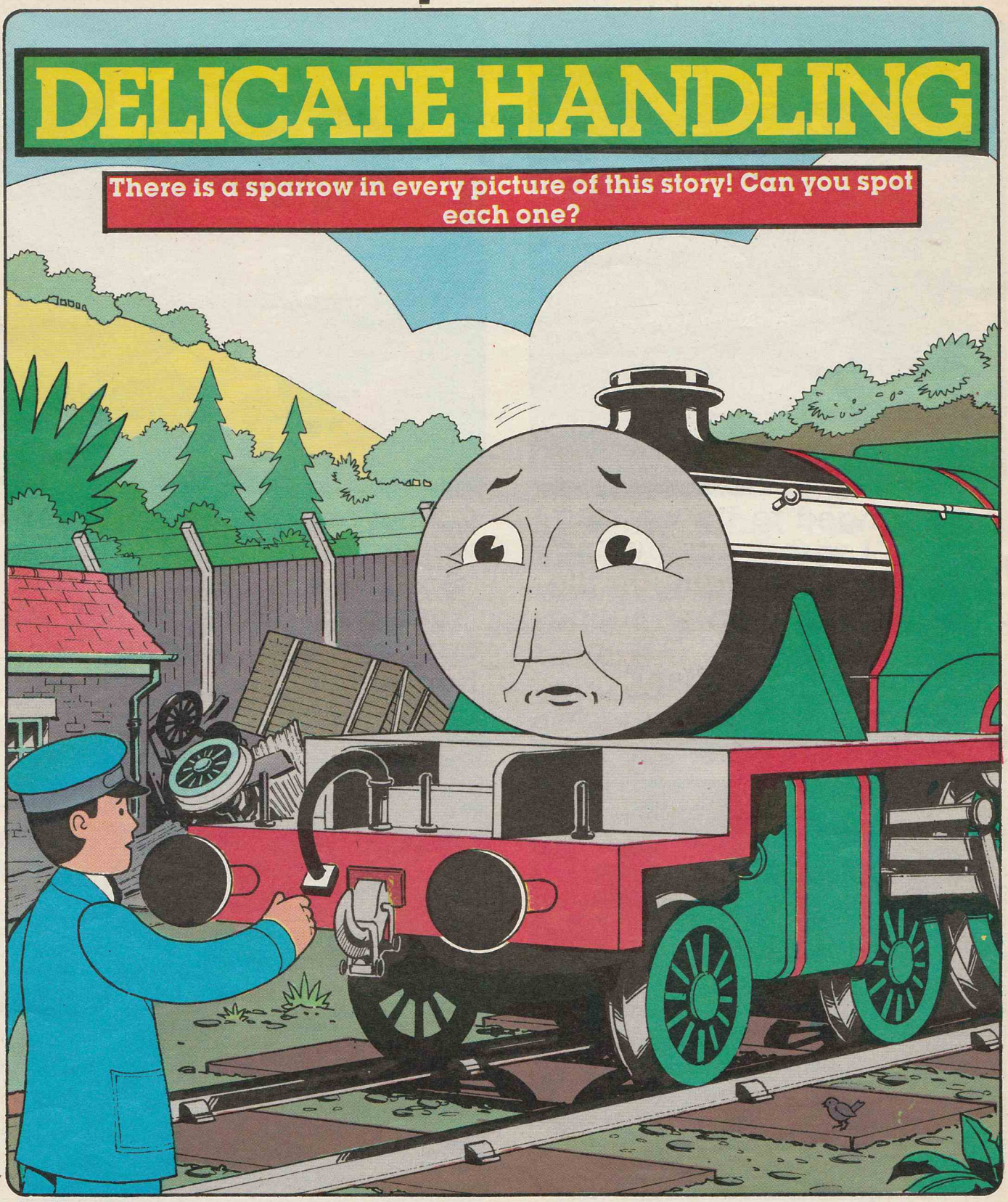
A listen and look story!

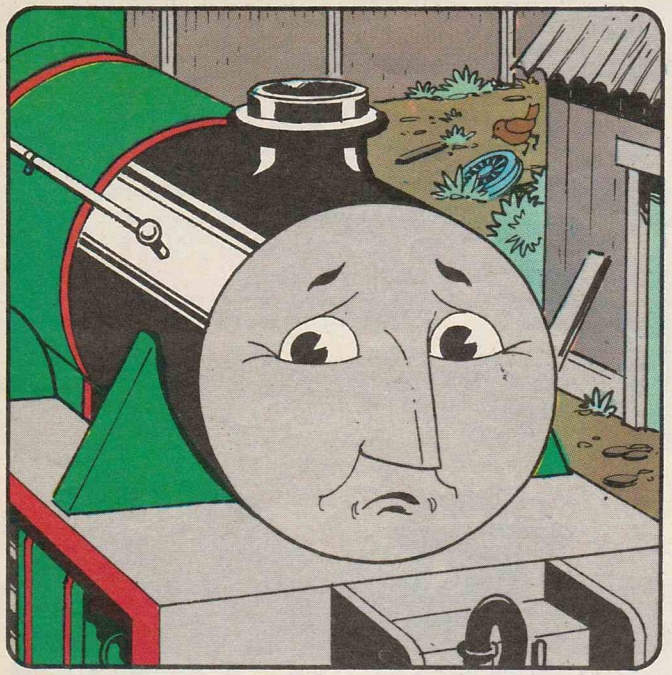
DELICATE HANDLING

There is a sparrow in every picture of this story! Can you spot each one?

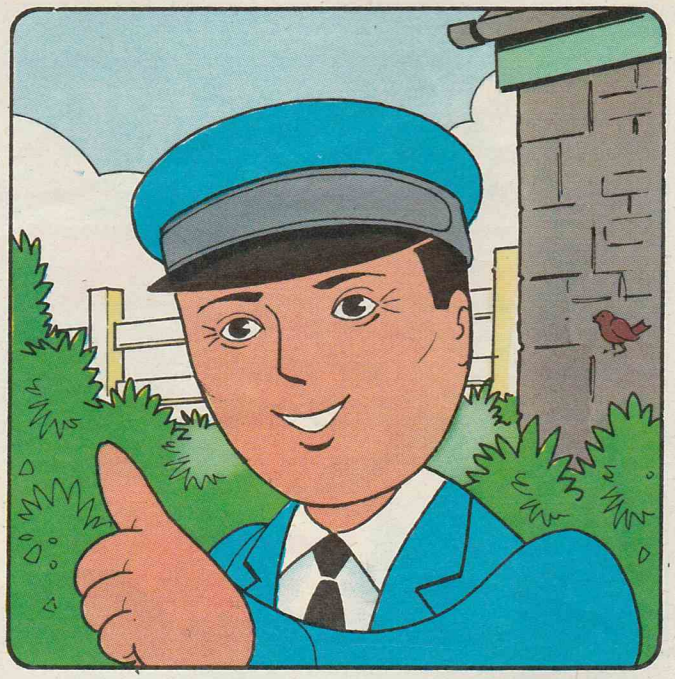


1. Henry was still at the works. He was very sad. Two weeks had become three weeks and still he had not been repaired. The engineer was waiting for the parts.

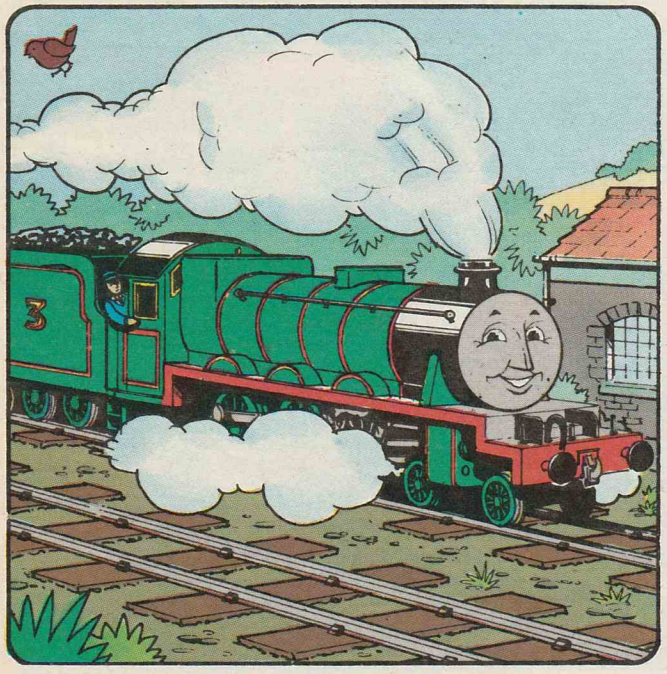
2. "They're on order," he would say. "Could be here any day now." Other engines came in, were repaired and went off again, but Henry just waited and waited.



3. He longed to be working again. "I wish I was pulling a long goods train on the main line, instead of sitting here," he sighed. "I'll rust away and be forgotten!"

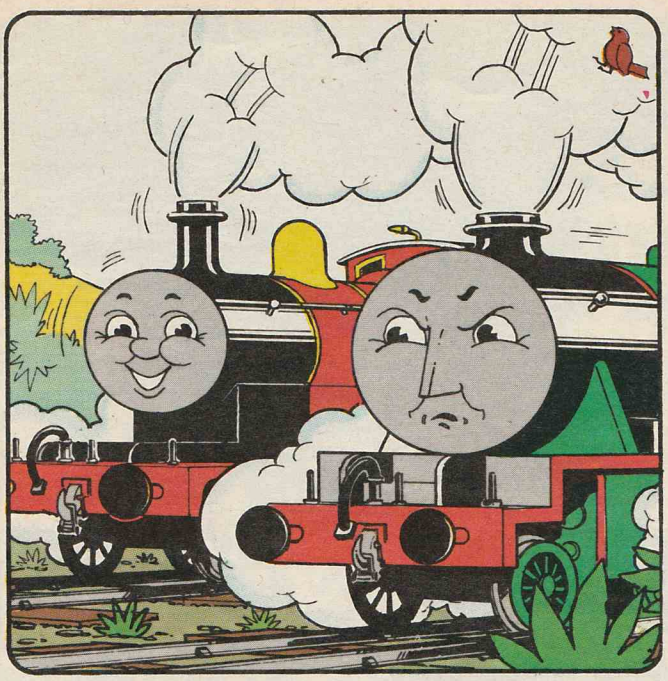


4. Then one day the engineer walked over with a smile. "Good news, Henry," he said. "Your parts have arrived. We can get you repaired and back on the line, now!"

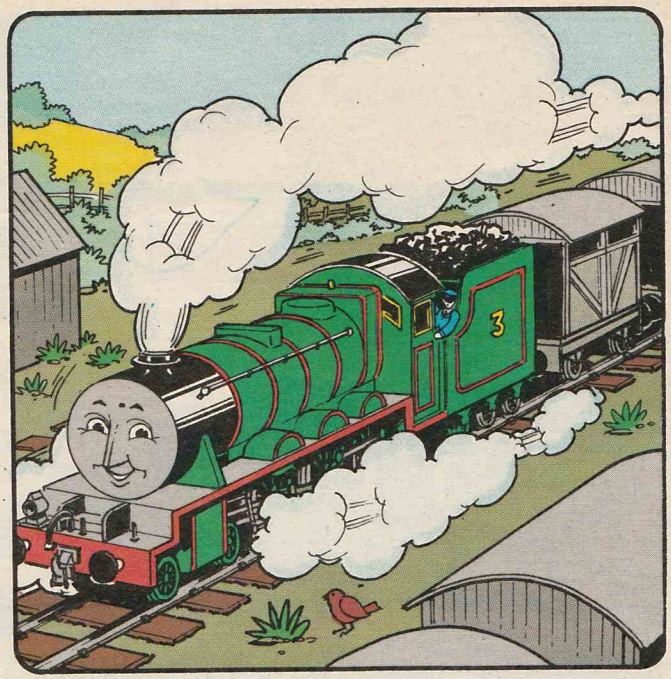


5. Henry was very happy as he puffed into the yard. He felt very well. His valve rods were smooth and oily and his brakes were tight. He was ready to work again.

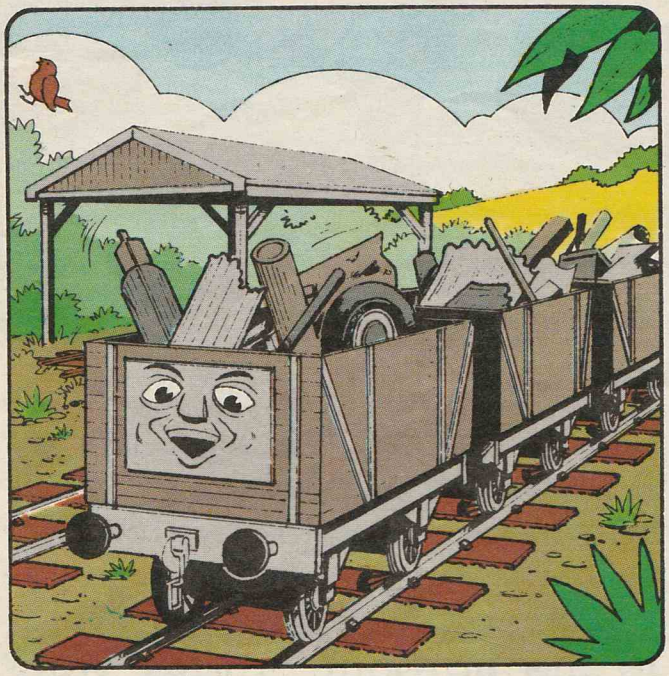
6. "Hello, Henry," said the Fat Controller. "It's good to have you back. I hope you will behave more sensibly now. You are an old engine and need delicate handling."



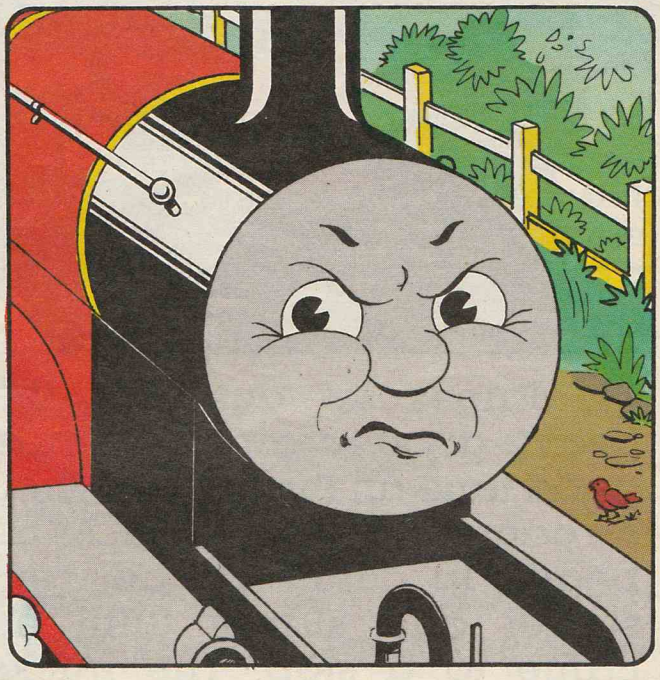
7. James heard what the Fat Controller had said and he thought it was very funny. "Three weeks at the works," he teased, "And Henry's as old and delicate as ever!"



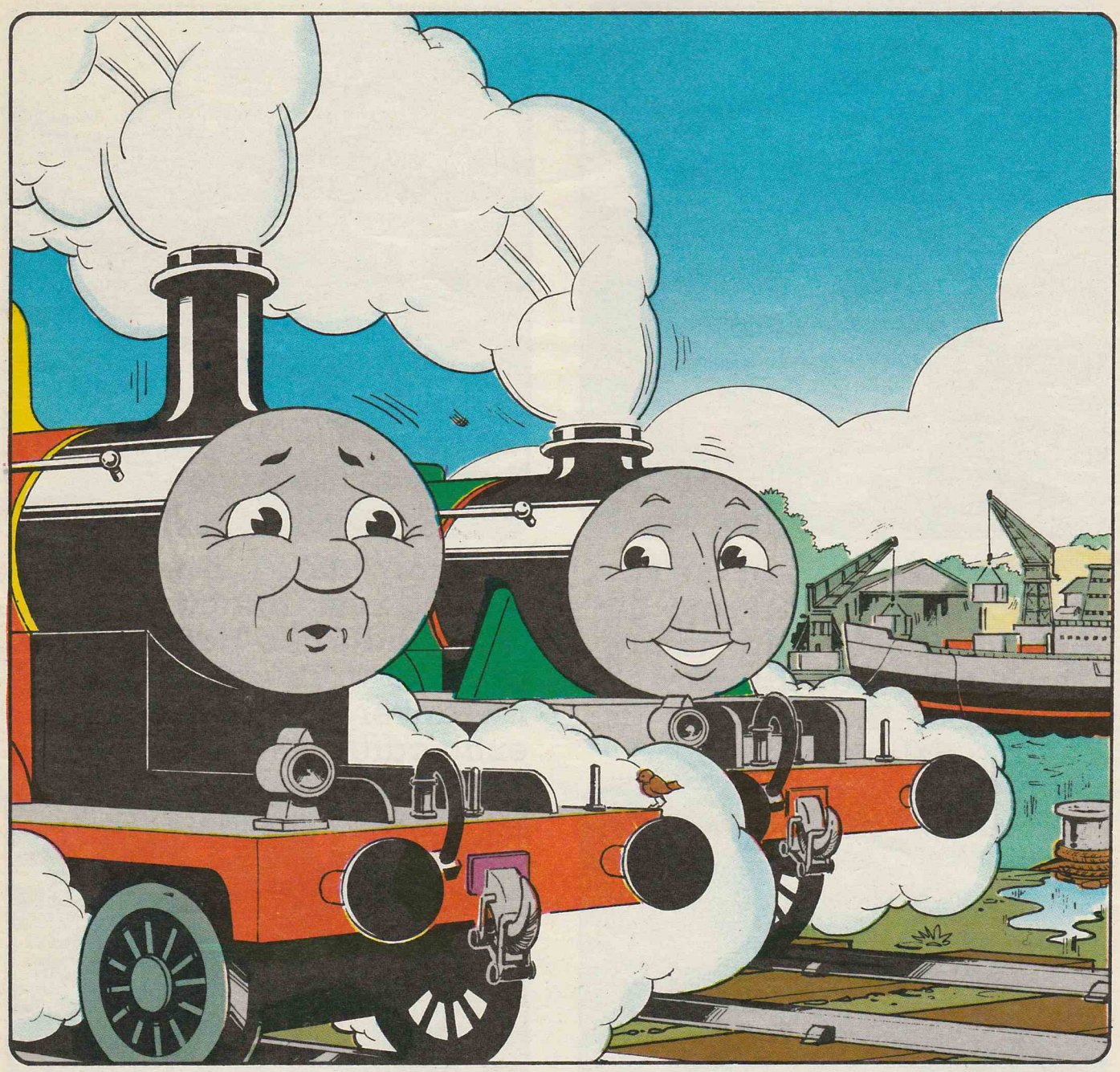
8. Henry didn't like James teasing him, but even so he was glad to be back. It was good to work again, even if his driver did have to take extra care with him!



9. One morning there was a special delivery of trucks for the harbour. They were loaded full of heavy steel and scrap iron for one of the big merchant ships.



10. There were really too many trucks for one engine to pull, but James insisted that he could do it alone. "I don't need any help from delicate engines," he said.



11. James set out with the heavy goods train. He made good time on the flat, but then he came to Gordon's hill. As he began to climb up, he went slower and slower until he came to a stop. The trucks were just too heavy for him. When the Fat Controller heard what had happened, he was very cross. "What foolishness," he said.

12. "James shouldn't have taken those trucks alone." Henry was sent out to help. James felt very silly. With Henry pushing behind, the trucks were soon over the hill and on to the harbour. "Thank you," said James. "That's all right," smiled Henry. "It just goes to show what an old engine can do with proper handling."

THE END

In our next issue: Trevor's nest!

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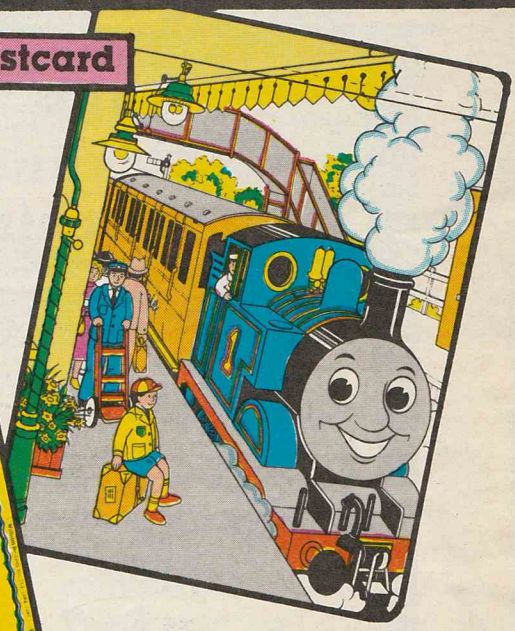

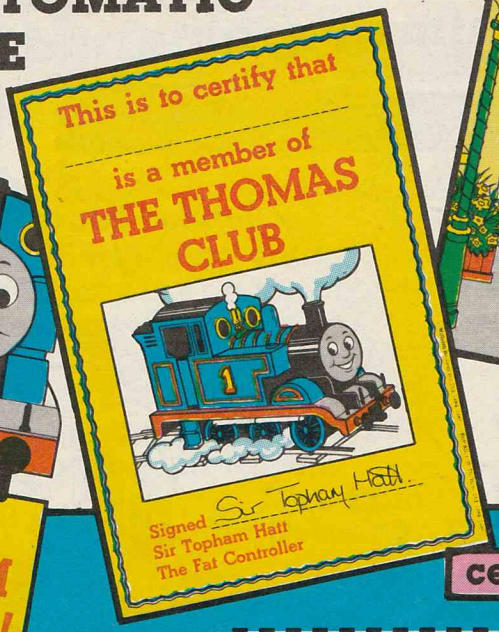

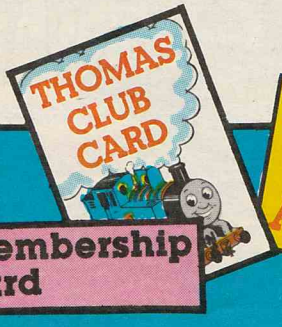

It costs just **£9.75** to be sent every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine** for a year – and this includes postage and packing. You will also receive our very special subscriber's **pack** (above). Just fill in the form and send it, together with a cheque or postal order for £9.75 to: *Thomas Subscriptions, PO Box 500, Leicester, LE99 0AB.*

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Name.....

Age..... **Birthday**.....

Address.....

.....

My favourite part of Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends magazine is .....

.....

Signature of parent/guardian .....

.....

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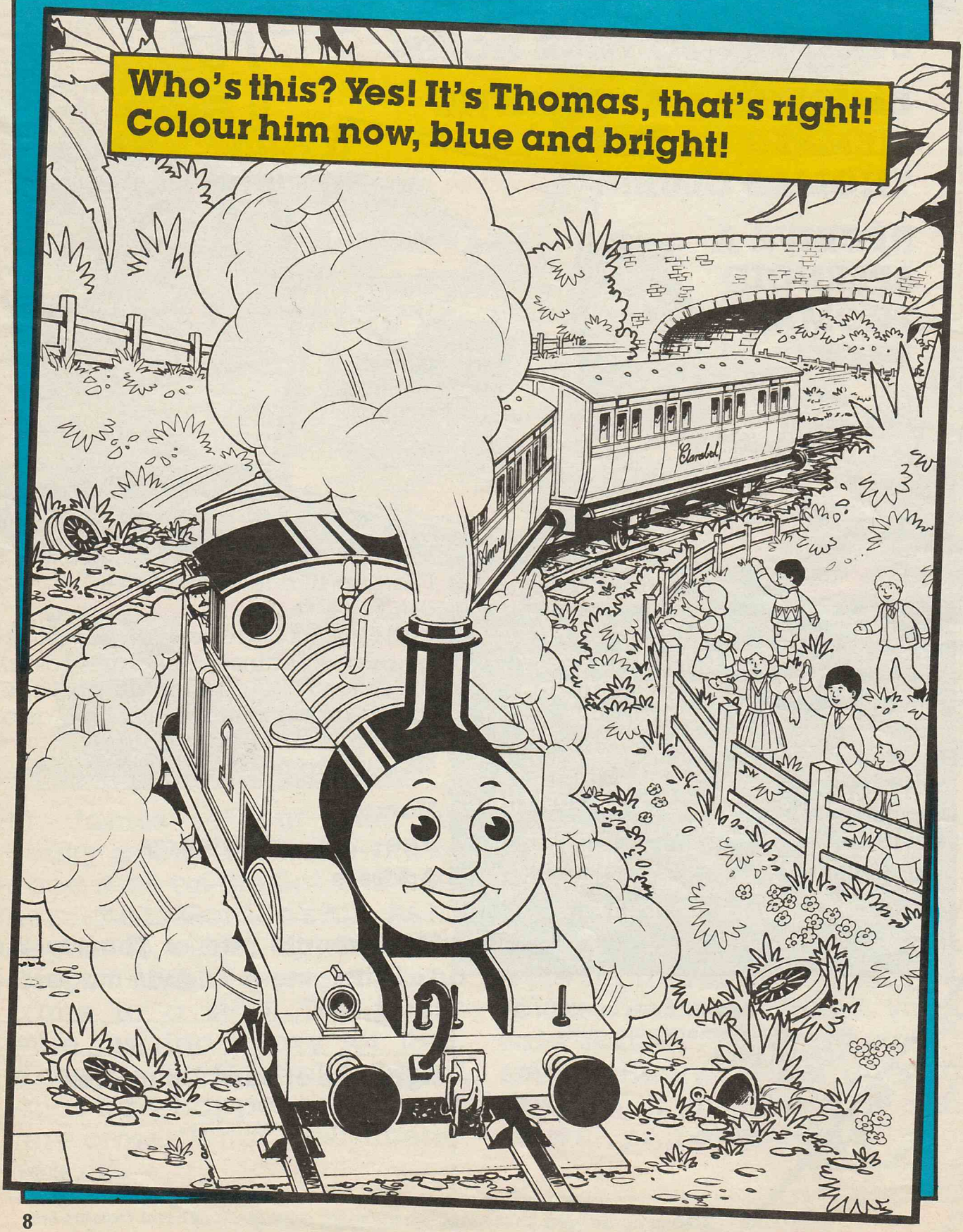
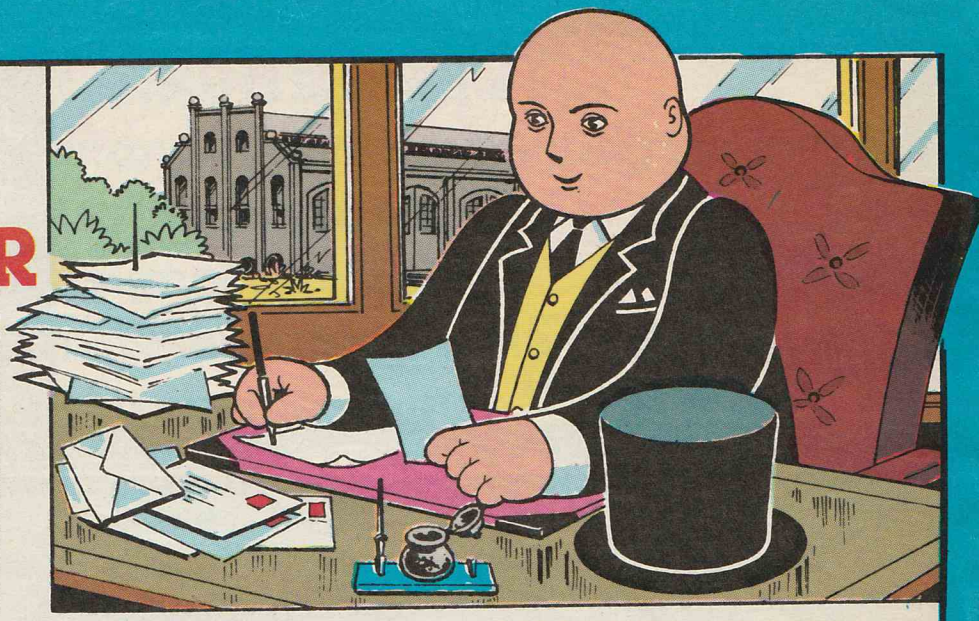
See Thomas, Percy and James's GERBER FRUIT DRINK PACKS for details of a **£1 DISCOUNT OFFER!** In the shops now!

COLOURING TIME!



Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,

My brother is 4. He loves steam trains and especially Thomas the Tank Engine. At night he makes chuffing noises in his sleep. I think he is dreaming about Thomas.

Love from **Frankie,** aged 3.

I find the chuffing noises made by my engines to be very soothing. What a pleasant, restful thing to listen to, Frankie!

Frankie wins a set of Thomas vinyl stickers, from Scorpio Products International Ltd.

MY FAVOURITE!

Dear Fat Controller,

My favourite engine is Edward because he works the hardest.

From **Barry,** aged 6.

All my engines work hard. I must say that Edward is an extremely Useful Engine.

EDWARD'S NAME!

Dear Fat Controller,

I like watching your programme on television. Somehow you have an engine called Edward, which is my name. I would love to know Edward's last name, his surname.

Love from **Edward Downing.**

Edward is just Edward, the Blue Engine. That is because, as far as I know, he is the only blue steam engine called Edward in the world.

REVEREND AWDRY!

Dear Fat Controller,

I have seen the Reverend Awdry who wrote the Thomas the Tank Engine books. He came to Oakhill School and read us a story. Luckily I had my Thomas Club membership card with me and he put his autograph on it for me. He was old with grey and white hair. Have you ever seen him?

From **Sammie,** aged 7.

Indeed I have, Sammie. He is a good friend of mine.

ANOTHER ISLAND!

Dear Fat Controller,

Last Summer we went on holiday to the Isle of Man. We went on two steam trains, an electric tram and an old bus like Bertie. There was also a big steam-powered wheel. We thought it must be a bit like the Island of Sodor.

Love **Alex,** aged 4.

I have paid very many pleasant visits to the Isle of Man, and indeed, it often reminds me of home in some ways.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our best wishes go to:

Kirsty Leigh Sturgess, Thomas, Heather Clark, John Cadman (4209), Paul Middleton (11566), Rory Lewis Lofthouse (10820), Iain Wilkinson, Carl Stubbinge, Stuart Wilson, Clare Swinnock (21700), Nicholas McLean, Katie Coyle, Christopher Wiles, Liam Metcalfe, Dick Barton, Alex Wilkinson, David Young, Graham and Sandra Boiling, Sarah Mason (24633), Grant Griffiths (04240), and Steven Keating.

Yours,

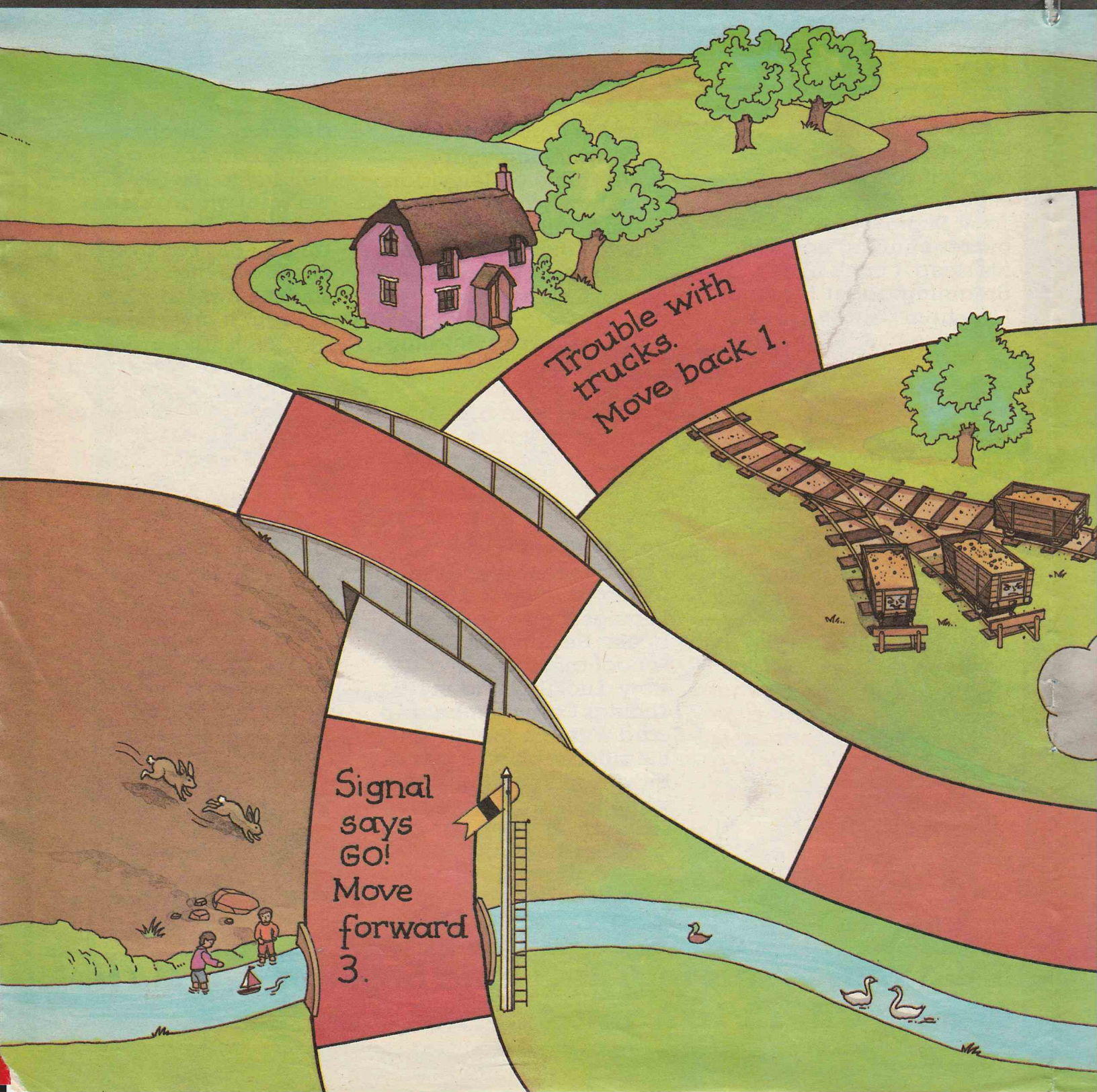
Sir Topham Hatt.

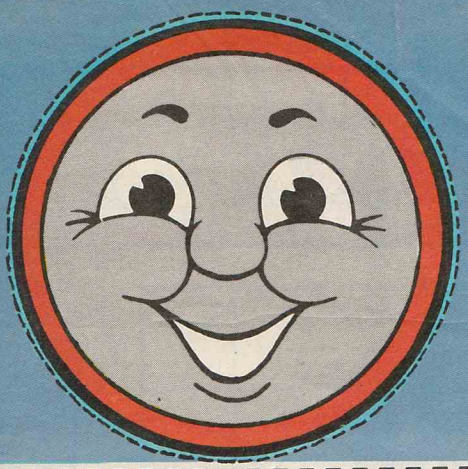
the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

THOMAS'S Game Part 3

This is the third part of Thomas's dice game. You will find the fourth and last part in the next issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and then you will be ready to play! Stick this double page on to thin card, cut the blue border off along the dotted lines and cut out your third counter. **Peep! Peep!**





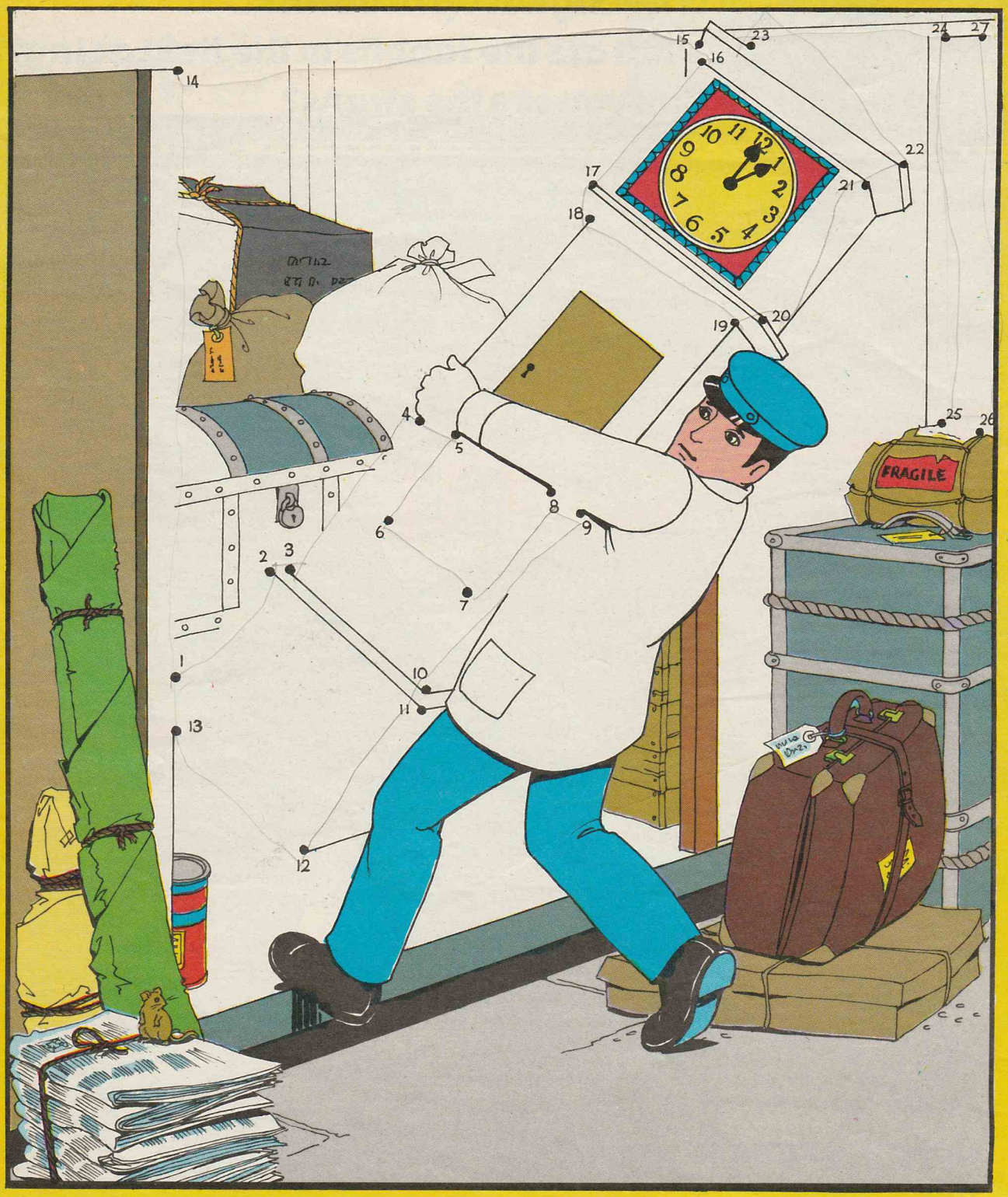
What colour is Bertie the bus?
How many people are feeding the ducks?
Point to the man fishing!
Is the signal up or down?
What are the rabbits in the field doing?
Can you see the swans?

Hello Bertie!
Move forward 3.

Track flooded.
Move back 2.

Thunder scares driver.
Move back 2.

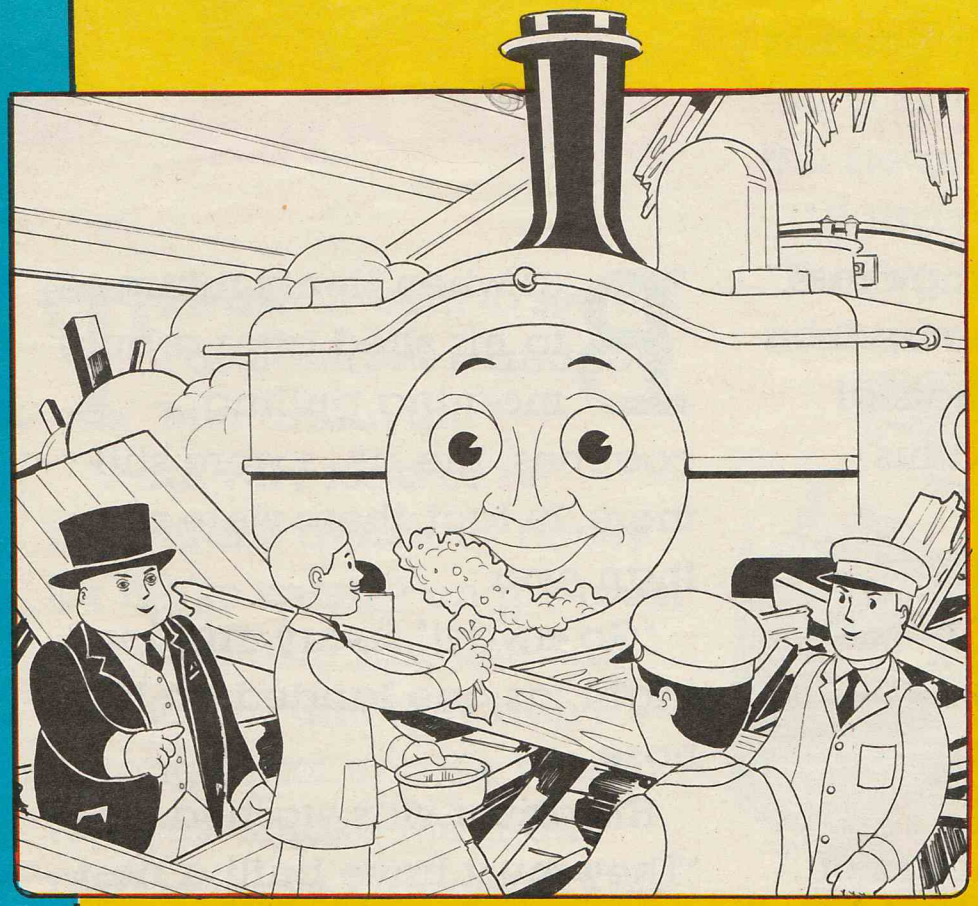
JOIN THE DOTS!

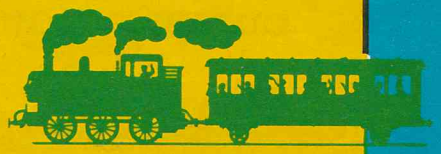


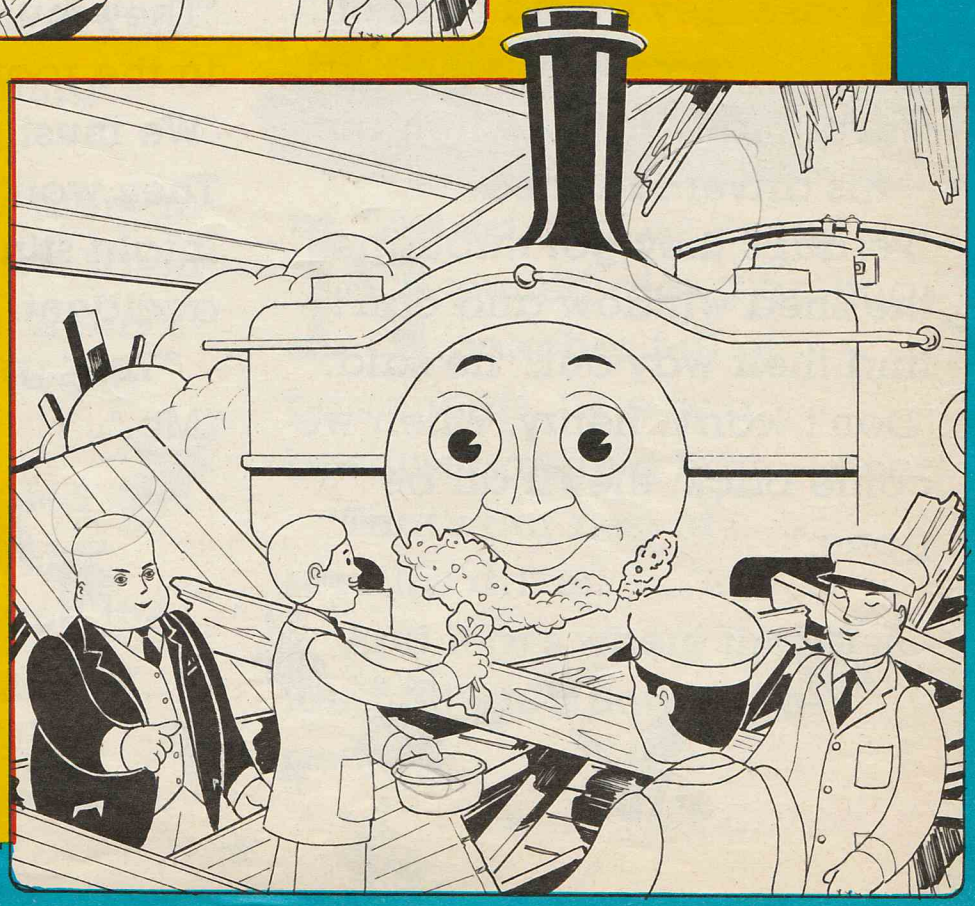
What is the guard at the station doing? Join the dots to find out – then you can finish colouring the picture!

PUZZLE TIME!

Do you remember the day Duck had a close shave? Here are two pictures of him – but they are not the same! Can you spot 5 differences between them and draw a ring round them? The answers are below!







Answers Peep! Peep!

In the second picture there is no water in the bowl; the Fat Controller has lost his hat; one of the guards has shut his eyes; Duck has lost his dome and he has a lot more **foam** on his face!

Henry and th

Henry was feeling cross. He had woken up to find lots and lots of bees buzzing around his shed.

"Shoo! Go away!" he shouted, but the bees wouldn't listen. They kept on buzzing around Henry's head.

"I wish they would buzz off," said Henry, crossly, when his driver came to take him out.

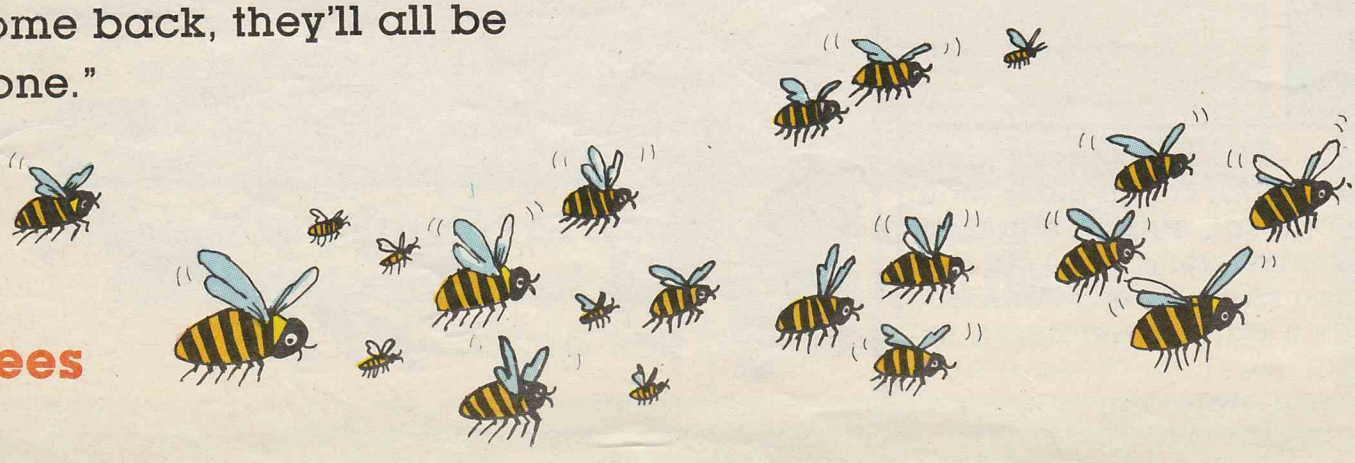
His driver laughed. "Perhaps they got through the shed window and can't find their way out," he said. "Don't worry, Henry. When we come back, they'll all be gone."

But when Henry returned to his shed after a busy morning pulling coaches, the bees were still there. In fact, there were more than ever.

"Go away!" Henry cried in fright, as one landed on his nose.

His driver was worried. "They must have built a nest in the roof beams," he said. "We must get rid of them. They won't mean to, but they might sting someone by accident."

"Yes," grumbled Henry. "Me."



bees

he Bees

The driver went to see the Fat Controller, and told him about the bees.

"I am very fond of bees. They make delicious honey for me to spread on my toast at breakfast," said the Fat Controller. "But they don't belong in an engine shed. We must smoke them out. That way, we can get rid of the bees without hurting them."

He ordered Henry's fireman to stoke up Henry's fire. When the fire was very hot, Henry's driver opened his valve to release the steam.

"Peep, peep," whistled Henry. "I'm hot, I'm hot."

The driver had closed the doors and windows of the engine shed to trap the steam. When it was so steamy that Henry couldn't see in front of his nose, the driver opened the windows again.

The bees, who had been buzzing noisily, flew out of the window to escape from the steam.

"Hurray!" said Henry. "They've gone. Good riddance."

Next day, as Henry puffed along pulling coaches full of passengers, he saw a beehive hanging from a tree.

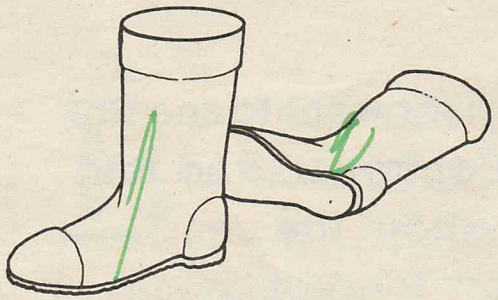
"That's our nest of bees," said his driver.

"And that's where they bee-long," puffed Henry. "Peep, peep."

THE END

Donald and Douglas's **BLACK** page!

Look at these pictures. Can you pick out their names from the box below? Label each picture, and then colour each one in – black!



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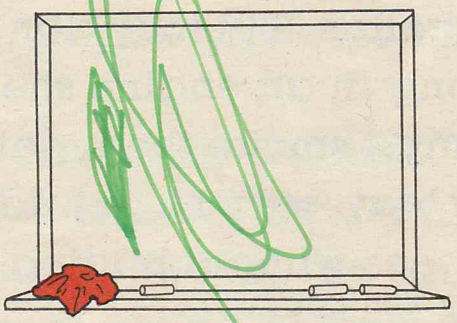
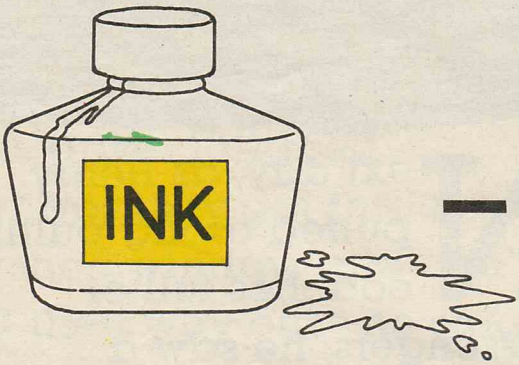


ink blackboard coal boots



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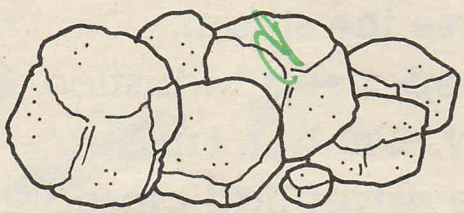

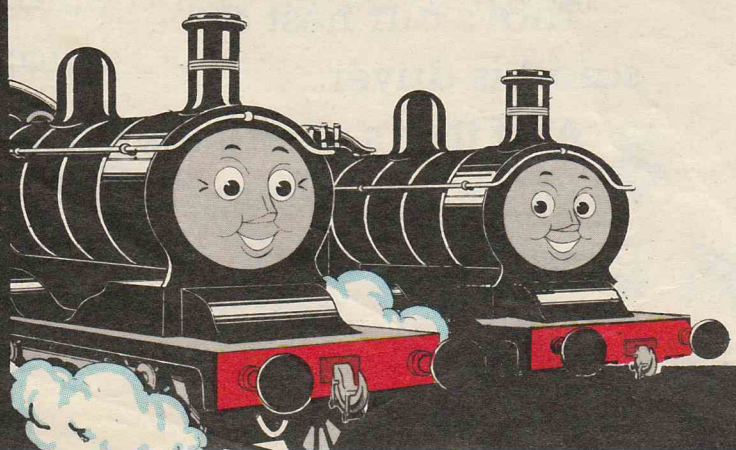

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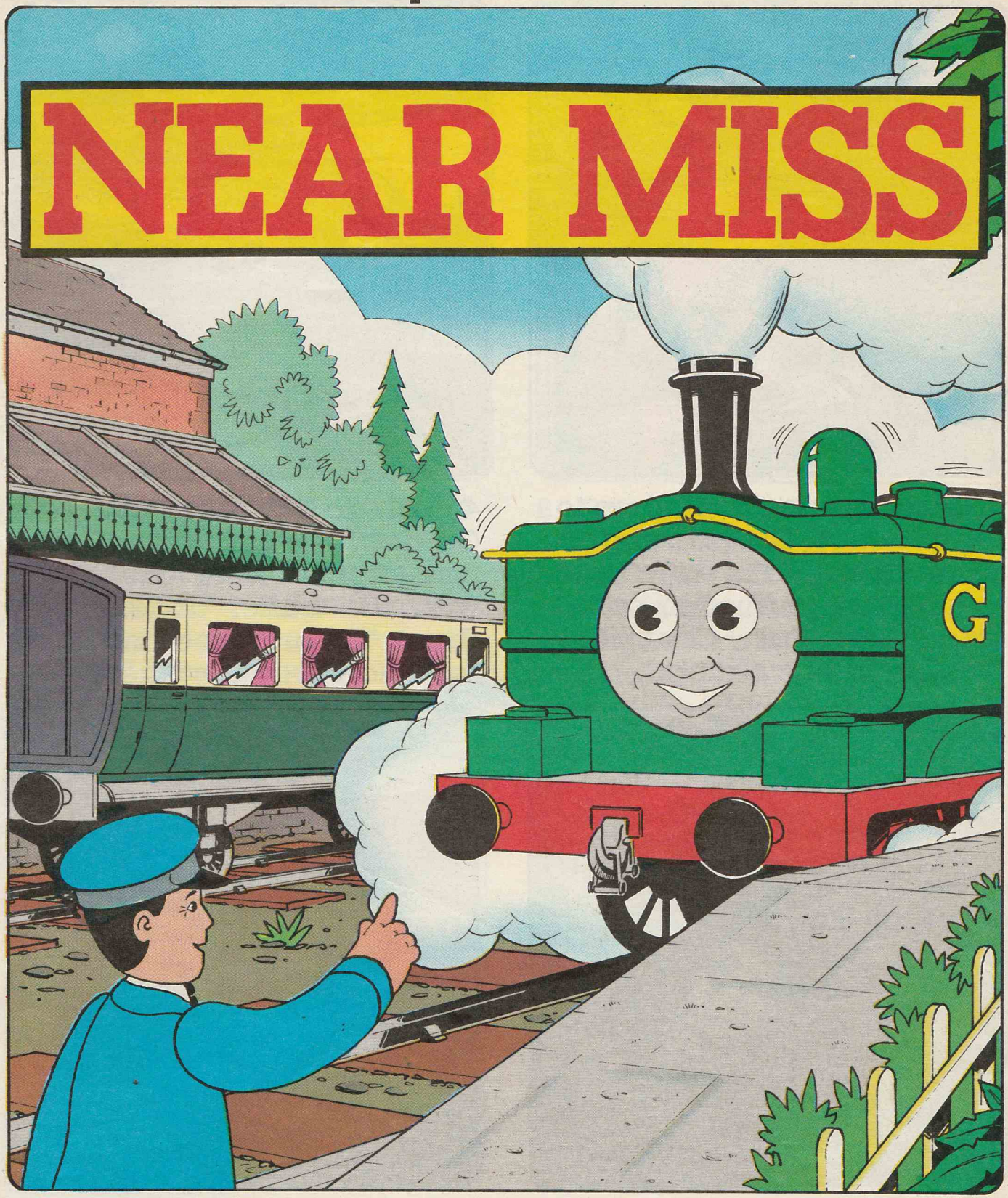
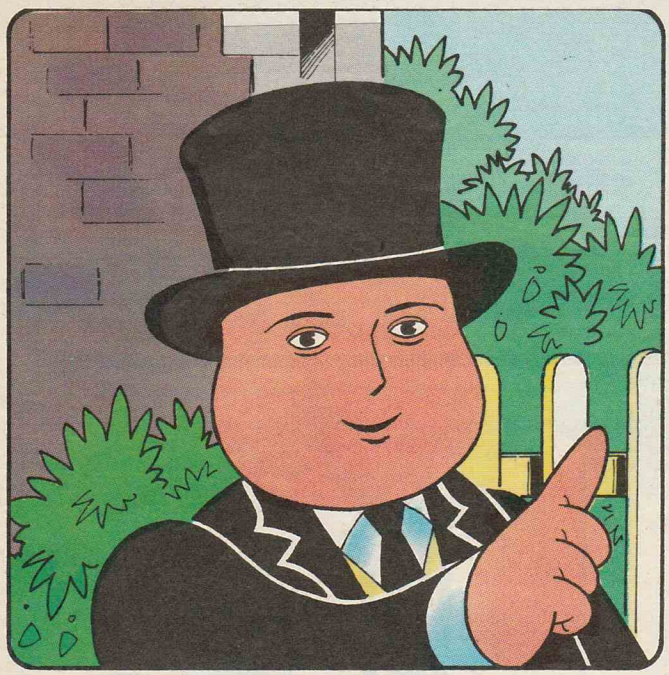
A listen and look story!

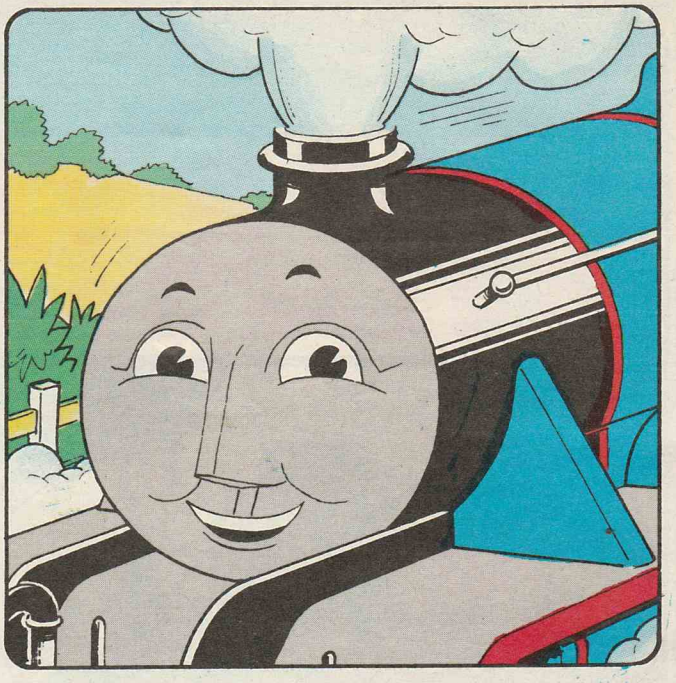


1. One sunny morning on the Island of Sodor there was a new coach in the yard at the big station. It was a buffet coach, with a small kitchen and dining room inside.

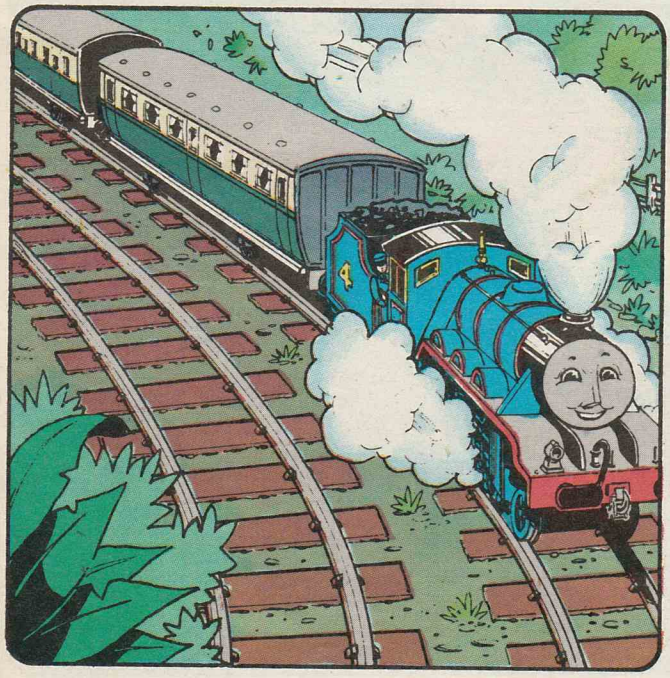
2. Duck was collecting the coaches for Gordon. "Don't forget the buffet coach," said the Stationmaster. "I won't," said Duck. He pulled the coaches to the platform.



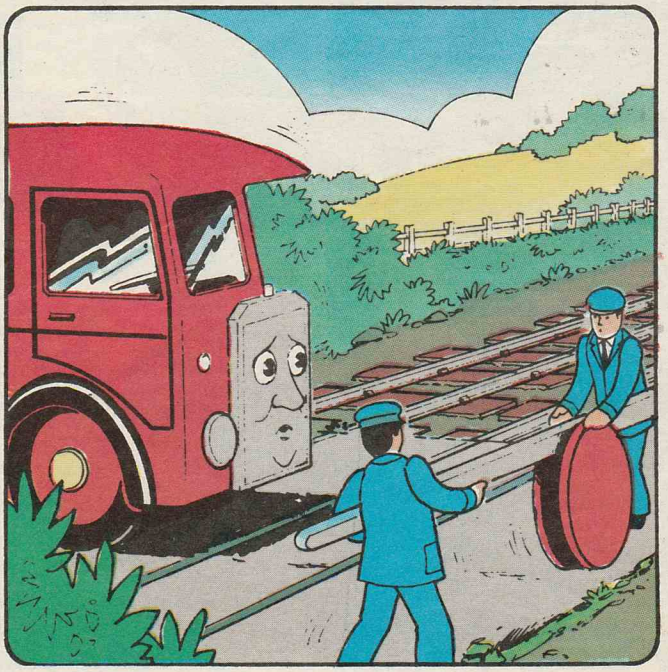
3. Gordon was coupled up to the coaches. The passengers climbed on. "Take extra care to make the journey smooth," said the Fat Controller. "People will be eating."



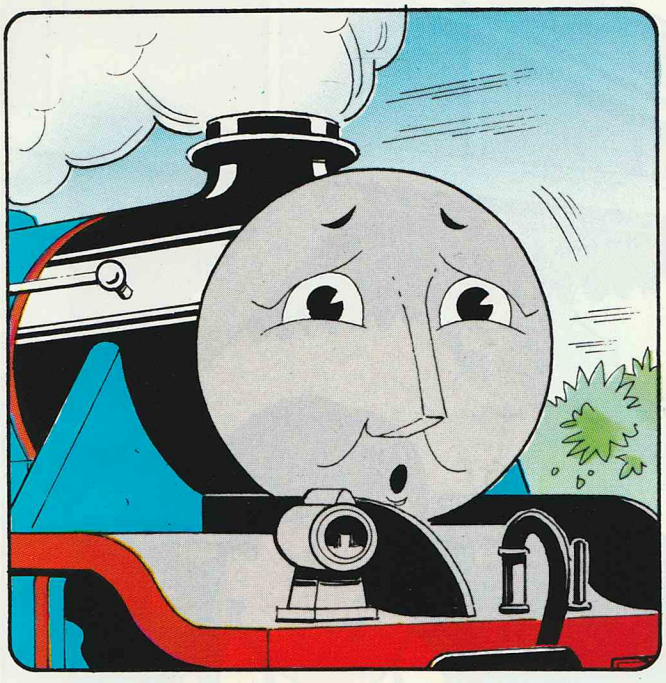
4. "I'll do my best, sir," said Gordon, proudly. The passengers were delighted with the buffet coach. They drank tea or coffee and some even had breakfast there.



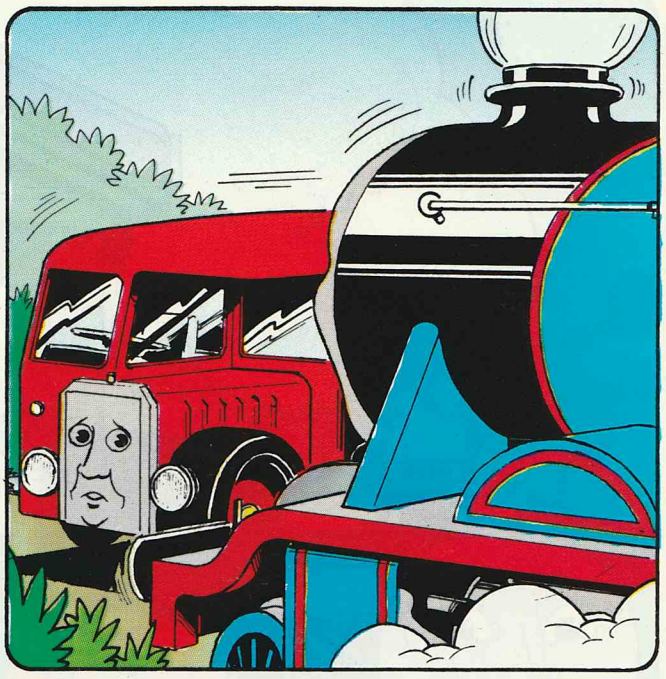
5. Gordon pulled his train like a gentleman. He took the buffect coach everyday and he tried not to let her shake or rattle. But then one day there was trouble.



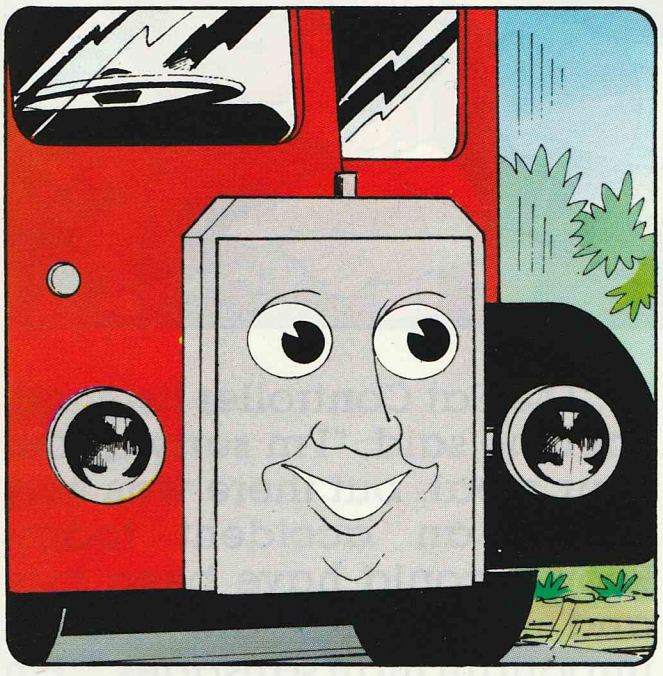
6. The crossing gates at one of the level crossings had jammed, trapping Bertie the bus on the track. His driver and the signalman were trying to get the gates up.



7. Gordon saw the warning signal as he came round the corner, but he was travelling very fast. There was not much distance to stop. "**Peeep! Peeep!**" he whistled.

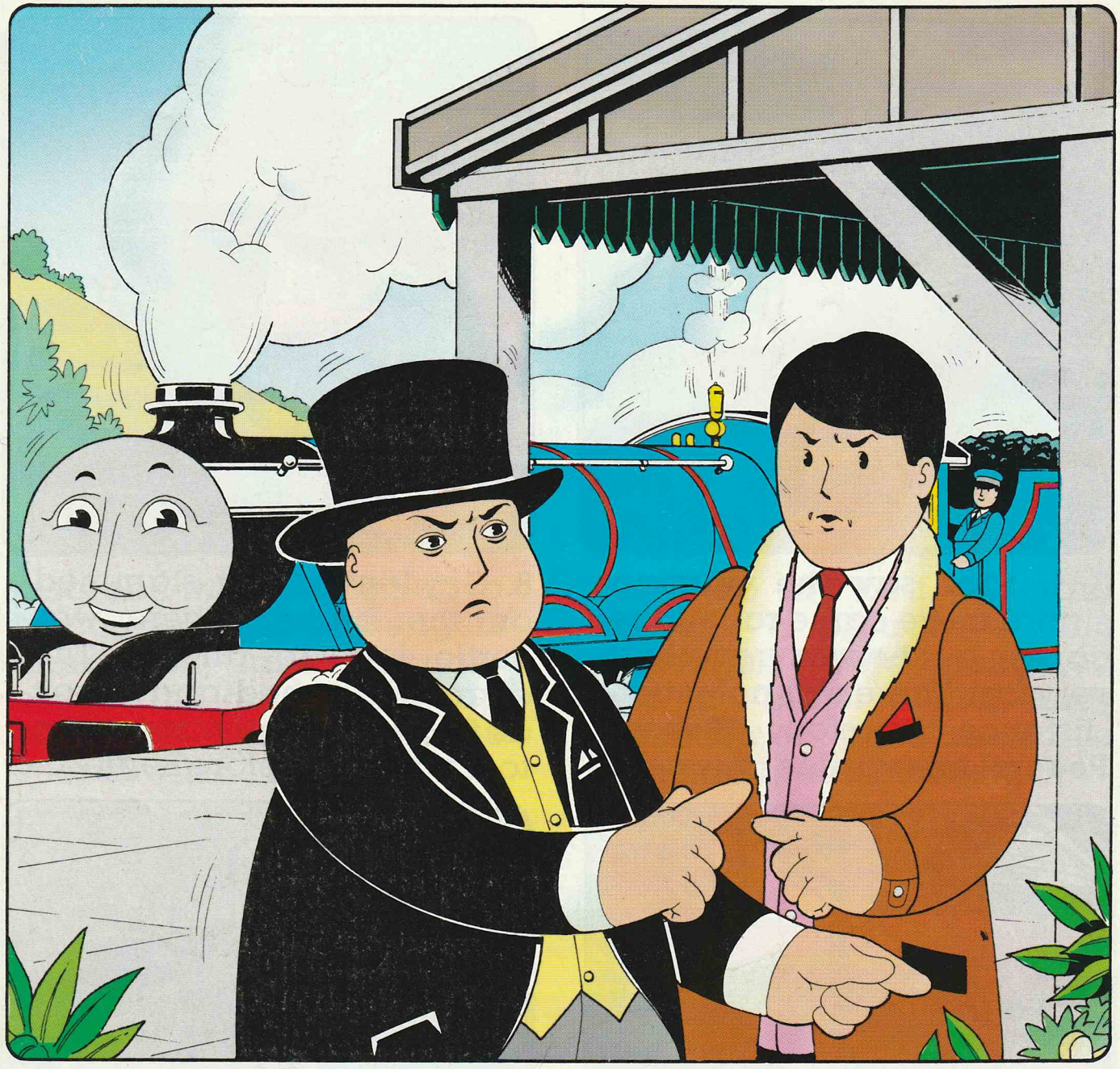


8. Gordon's driver slammed on the brakes. There was Bertie just up ahead. The coaches lurched and shook as Gordon came screeching to a halt, just before Bertie.



9. "Phew!" sighed Bertie. "Phew!" said Gordon. "That was a near miss." But back in the buffet coach the passengers were cross. Their food had been thrown about!

10. The guard told the passengers what had happened. Most of them stopped being cross, but one man was still angry. "My sausages!" he moaned.



11. "I'm going to make a complaint." said the man. The guard could say nothing to please him. At last, the men got the crossing gates up. Bertie drove off the track and Gordon went on his way again. But that evening the cross man went to see the Fat Conroller. "I wish to make a complaint," he said. Gordon was worried.

12. The Fat Controller listened. Then he said, "I'm sorry about your meal, but there was very nearly an accident today. People could have been hurt and people are more important than sausages. I'm very proud of Gordon." The cross man was still not happy, but Gordon was. "Peep! Peep!" He gave a cheery whistle.

THE END

In our next issue: Trouble at the harbour!